

TOGETHER

THE meeting of the Big Three at Yalta, in the Crimea, on the eve of Germany's final overthrow makes plain in no uncertain manner that the three great nations who have worked and fought *together* to wreck the Nazi dream of world domination are united in hope and confidence.

The broad tides of battle are flowing towards victory, carrying with them decisions which will settle the fate of the world for years to come. There is much about the immediate future which no one can prophesy; but we can confidently assert that the three great nations who have unitedly put their hands and fortunes to bring liberty back into the world will go on together to the end.

But there is a greater significance in this Allied meeting on the shores of the Black Sea. Victory will be a grand achievement, but even grander will be the determined purpose to keep together in partnership thereafter. This is the hopeful and enriching factor in world politics which gives every man of good will the right to rejoice.

NEVER before have there been so many signs in America that her leaders and people are prepared to support their idealism with practical action, and to share in the burden of creating and maintaining the machinery of world government. Russia, too, stands in a new position—a mighty nation of conquering power which has astonished the world. For her, too, that supreme hour is yet to come when with the rest of the world's peoples she displays her ability to make peace as well as war, and to take her full share in constructing a world order which will endure.

Britain stands in this partnership as the trusted champion of freedom, and as a tried believer in the co-operation of the nations for preserving peace. Upon her rests a supreme responsibility as the link between the old world and the new, a link which is bound to be strained and tested in the post-war world.

Upon Britain is placed a moral authority to keep alive among the nations now banded together for war the vision of brothers-in-arms to preserve peace. Her responsibility will be to see that the high hopes and idealism of universal brotherhood, and the rights of the common man, are translated into some practical plan.

BRITAIN's place in world affairs may be to exercise her genius for compromise between strongly supported but antagonistic ideas which are bound to be revealed in the conferences of the United Nations. This British gift of reconciling opposing views and bringing a working settlement out of discord will have outstanding political value.

The willingness to agree, and the will to discover a settlement of many involved problems, is one of the signs of hope which the world has every right to salute with confidence. Today, as never before, the world is faced with intricate problems which might well wreck its peace. We are witnessing, however, a frankness on the part of men in supreme positions which has not always characterised modern politics.

We must not delude ourselves with too many rosy pictures, but we need not depress ourselves with too much gloom. The making of a new world is, in fact, proceeding, and its framework is gradually taking shape after long years of darkness. There is much yet to be done, and it will take generations to realise all the dreams of world harmony which have captured the hearts of men through the centuries.

BUT here is good news. "Together" is a word of hope for the world and a sure sign that unity of purpose is at the foundation of all the planning of the great nations. The Crimea Declaration has pronounced this word. It is more than some men hoped for; it is less than some men's dreams. But the foundations upon which, ultimately, all hopes and dreams must rest, have been well and truly laid.

A BIG SHIP'S CARGO OF SHIPS

It is believed that one of the greatest problems of amphibious warfare across the Pacific and Indian Oceans will be solved by a new invention, the giant tank-landing craft transporters.

These "landing ships (dock)," as they are officially known, are a combination of ship and floating dock. They can carry fully laden tank-landing craft or many small assault craft over long distances to the scene of action.

The method of loading these ships is to fill ballast tanks by pumps so that they are lowered in the water to enable landing craft to sail in through a door in the stern. Then the tanks are emptied and the landing-craft lie inside on the dry bed of the dock. When the landing-craft are needed the ballast tanks are filled again and the landing-craft, become water-borne once more.

After the door in the stern has been closed and the dock pumped dry, the carrier vessel is like any normal ship. The designer of this giant vessel is a British naval officer in Combined Operations Command Headquarters, and it had its origin as a rough sketch on a scrap of blotting paper on his desk.

A New National Park For Scotland

THE National Forest Park Committee appointed by the Forestry Commission has recommended that the property of the Commission at Glen Trool in Kircudbright and the forests of Kircudbright and Cairn Edward should be developed as a national forest park.

The combined areas of these properties is over 60,000 acres, of which more than half will always be available for public recreation. This wild country has been described as the cradle of Scot-

land's independence and is rich in Covenanting memories. It includes the Merrick, the highest hill in the lowlands of Scotland, Loch Trool, and Loch Neldricken.

The establishment of hostels and camping sites is also recommended, suggested sites for hostels being Glen Trool Lodge, Bargrennan, and Craignell. Camping facilities should be divided into three groups, one each for juvenile and adult organisations, and the third for campers not in any organisation.

Silkworms in Ceylon

SILKWORMS have come to Ceylon.

Experiments in rearing Indian silkworms were made in Ceylon in 1944 by an expert just back from work at the Government Silk Farm in Mysore, India. Since then silkworm eggs have been distributed there to 45 volunteers, who report good progress with cocoons and silk. Meanwhile, one Ceylon textile centre is already training some of its students in the reeling of silk, for which machinery is to be imported from India.

The success of the first silkworm trials encourages the Ceylon Department of Commerce and Industries to think that the silkworm industry can be profitably carried on there in the village homes. At present the chief hindrance is the shortage of mulberry leaves.

Ceylon has before its eyes the example of India, whose mulberry silkworms in peacetime supply the silk for the brilliant saris worn by the women, and in wartime for Allied parachutes. Moreover, the silkworms with which Ceylon is now experimenting came from the Indian State of Mysore, which accounts for half of India's silk production.

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

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POSTAGE
Inland 1d
Abroad 3d
No 1355

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



Off Duty in Burma

Captain J. Farrell of Glasgow has made friends with a little Burmese citizen whose mother works at the 36th Division's supply point.

RIVALS WORK TOGETHER

THE danger from flying particles of glass as revealed in wartime makes it probable that glass will be largely replaced by plastic sheets of synthetic resin in a few years. However, new uses are being found for glass which will enable it more than to hold its own. One of the uses, curiously enough, is to reinforce plastics, so that already we find glass and its substitute, synthetic resin, working together.

Spun-glass fibres are being used to reinforce plastic materials in much the same way as steel reinforces concrete. A material is produced in this

way which has astonishing strength for its weight; it is being used in aeroplane construction, and in making light luggage, canoes, and furniture.

The glass fibres are formed by gathering together a hundred or more fine filaments of glass as they emerge from as many tiny holes in the melting chamber. The strands are wound together at a high speed into fibres. So strong can these fibres be made that with a diameter of only 230 hundred-thousandths of an inch they will have a tensile strength of a quarter of a million pounds per square inch.

Safety First in the Home

THE National Home Safety Committee is of the opinion that domestic accidents in people's homes will continue until houses are properly built and furnished.

In a memorandum to the Ministry of Health the Committee recommend that houses should be provided with sufficient natural and artificial light. Staircases should be carefully planned with no odd steps and with gates at the top and bottom. Floor coverings should not be slippery, and there should

be handrails in baths. Furniture should not have sharp corners. Guards for fires should be permanent fixtures or of the sliding variety, while oil and electric stoves which can be removed from one room to another should also have guards. Gas and electrical fittings should be equipped with safety devices, and kitchen utensils such as kettles and saucepans ought not to have long handles that project over the stove and can thus be easily upset.

Mr Attlee Goes to School

Speaking of school systems, Mr Attlee said that he was strongly in favour of a system which would break down class barriers, but he was also in favour of variety, and he thought that the abolition of the old tradition and the levelling of everything to a dull uniformity would be a fatal thing to do.

A SWISS ENVOY FOR PARIS

It is nearly five and a half years ago since Germany invaded Poland, and on the very same day "cancelled with immediate effect" the Free City of Danzig, and gave M. Burekhardt two hours in which to leave the territory. Since then he has laboured zealously for the International Red Cross at Geneva; and he brings a wealth of understanding as well as many fine qualities to meet the many difficulties facing him in his new task.

Jumping to the Rescue

The 243 enemy officers and men guarding the camp had no suspicion of the plan, and on the morning of the attack were drilling as usual. The bewildered Japanese, attacked from inside and outside the camp at the same instant, were wiped out. The 2146 men, women, and children prisoners, including 300 British, marched away to the shores of a lake nearby and were safely ferried across to the American lines.

FROM PIT TO OXFORD

Formerly a pupil at a Chichester high school, Anthony joined the A.T.C. to become an R.A.F. pilot, but nine months ago was called up for the mines. He studied for his examination in his billet, in Chesterfield, and was given two days off to take the New College exam.

Metals For Roots

In a similar way extensive experiments recorded by the American Society of Horticulture have shown that small quantities of copper, iron, zinc, and manganese in the soil help the good growth of potatoes and other tubers. For carrots and turnips, a trace of boron, copper, zinc, or manganese causes the crops to be richer in sugar, and copper always increases the weight of the roots.

THINGS SEEN

A lady with a monkey on a lead in Leicester Square, London.

LITTLE NEWS REELS

Going round with a wagon after school eleven-year-old Sammy Kershaw, of Sarnia, in Ontario, has in two years collected over 34 tons of salvage for the benefit of the Red Cross.

Liberation News Reel

THE 25,000-ton German liner Wilhelm Gustloff, with 3700 U-boat sailors on board, was torpedoed and sunk after leaving Danzig.

Youth News Reel

An offer to transport coal to their homes has been made by Portsmouth Boy Scouts to all old and infirm people in the City.

Nearly 141,000 women are now working in the Post Office. They form almost half of the staff.

During the recent carrier-borne aircraft attack on Japan the Americans destroyed 36 Japanese ships and 659 Japanese aircraft. American losses were 49 planes.

* Of the £200 raised during Boys' Brigade Week by the 88th London Company no less than £70 came from Old Boys in the Services, in sums from a few shillings to five guineas.

SKI-ING IN INDIA

At the first mention of it skiing in India seems as inappropriate as desert sands in Alaska, but recently a team of Royal Canadian Air Force ski-ers travelled 1500 miles to the All-India Ski Championships, held on the slopes of the Himalayas in Kashmir.

They had no complaints about the snow, for on the way it took 20 coolies to get their truck out of it and, though they are accustomed to an Arctic winter, the Canadians slept under eight blankets. They were amazed at the hardness of the Indian ski-ers, who wore only flimsy clothing and grass shoes.

The Canadians won three silver trophies, and said the Kashmir ski-ing conditions were ideal—one downhill course from 11,400 feet to 8600 feet is 5½ miles long, and the ski-ers often found themselves streaking through cloud on their exciting run down the slope.

MARGARINE LAMPS

BRITISH prisoner-of-war students have to contend with great difficulties in carrying on their studies. In one camp the Germans turned out the lights soon after dark, but some of the prisoners were able to continue their studies by making lamps in which they burned small quantities of margarine saved from their Red Cross parcels.

In another camp chalk for the lecturer's use at a blackboard was made by baking a mixture of tooth-paste and plaster in a home-made oven.

THE NEW CHIEF SCOUT

Scouts throughout the world have welcomed the appointment of Lord Rowallan as Chief Scout in succession to the late Lord Somers.

Lord Rowallan is 49 and an old Etonian. He served in the last war, was wounded, and won the Military Cross. He commanded a battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers in France in the early days of this war, and since Dunkirk he has trained cadet battalions on Scout lines. He has been an active member of the Scout Movement for the past 23 years.

The CN wishes the new Chief well in his labours. Lord Rowallan's appointment comes at a time when scouting is about to emerge from its wartime guise to enjoy a wider scope, and, we are sure, to exercise even greater influence than in the years before the war.

A PRICELESS LEGACY

A VERY unusual bequest is revealed by the will of a Cornishman who died recently.

He was not very well off, and it was only right that his few worldly possessions should go to his only daughter, who had been kind to him and looked after him for many years. But he also wanted to remember his little granddaughter, of whom he was very fond. Of course, he could have left her a small sum of money or other token of remembrance, but he wanted hers to be a legacy beyond price, something that could neither be weighed nor measured, neither bought nor sold, something sweet, precious and abiding.

So with his own hand, he penned this beautiful legacy: "To my dear granddaughter I give all my love."



Small Dutch Folk Take Their Liberators For a Walk

ANTHONY'S MEDAL

ANTHONY EVERITT is only four, but he went to Buckingham Palace the other day to receive one of the highest awards for bravery.

It was the Albert Medal awarded to Tony's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Everitt, who gave her life last May when trying to rescue the crew of a burning American plane which had crashed near Saffron Walden.

At the Palace the King bent down and spoke to Tony as he handed him the medal, saying, "Now you will keep this in memory of your very brave mother." We may be sure that it will be Anthony Everitt's most cherished possession.

The US Army Air Force created a fund as a memorial to Mrs. Everitt, and this is to provide for the education of Tony.

FRIENDS INDEED

THE Society of Friends has practised Christian fellowship ever since it was founded in the middle of the seventeenth century.

The members of this movement, sometimes called Quakers, have done some exceedingly good work during the present war; and not the least of their works of mercy has been helping to feed French children. All through the occupation of France by the Germans the French Friends ran canteens for children at Marseilles, Toulouse, and Perpignan, and a welfare scheme at Montauban, in the South of France. Now, the English Friends' Relief Service are extending the good work to the devastated North of France, particularly round Le Havre and Caen.

NO SNOW

ALTHOUGH the greater part of Scotland has recently suffered severe snowstorms there is one spot which has had no snow. This is the island of Iona, and no snow has fallen within living memory.

The close proximity of the Gulf Stream is believed to be the reason for the island's immunity from snow.

MAKE YOUR OWN TOYS

It may seem a little early to be thinking of Christmas toys, but, with memories of last Christmas still fresh, there must be many fathers who have determined that this year they will set to and make their own. For such fathers, and for big brothers too, Toys From Scrap (issued at 3s 6d by Useful Publications, 37 Aldwych, London, WC2) will prove a boon.

The author tells how he began toy-making, and gives advice to beginners in this gentle craft; then follow full directions and diagrams for making 20 models, and whether a jointed dog or a push truck be the choice, the certainty will be hours of pleasure for the amateur craftsman as well as countless hours of delight for some lucky child.

HOW TO BE 100

MRS EMILY STEVENS, who died recently at Saltash, in Cornwall, in her 101st year, attributed her great age to a simple life and being a strict teetotaler.

A remarkable woman, who even after her 100th birthday could bend and touch her toes, she went on playing the piano as she had done from childhood, and knitted and crocheted garments for the Jewish Mission and Dr Barnardo's Homes.

One of her memories was of writing letters to two uncles fighting in the Crimean War!

A STAR AT TEN

HAYDN's Concerto in G Major at the age of ten. That is pretty good going.

Elizabeth Vernon-Powell, a young pianist of that age, played this famous classic at a London Symphony Orchestra concert a few days ago. Elizabeth had learned and memorised it in five weeks.

Elizabeth's chief cause for pride in her success is that she is pleasing her father, who has returned home after four and a half years as a prisoner-of-war in Germany.

It is a happy thought, and a happy augury for the future, that so many boys and girls of today are showing a real gift for music. It is very seldom, however, that a child reaches stardom at so tender an age as Elizabeth has done.

THE UNFAILING COMPASS

A SCIENTIST of the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough worked intensively on an idea which had come to him for a compass which would give accurate and unfailing readings even during the extraordinary evolutions peculiar to the warplane.

This young man, Leslie Bygrave, was killed before he had completed his work, but he left behind him notes, plans, and models which other scientists have studied, and the compass of his dreams has become a reality.

The Distant Reading Compass, as it is called, has proved to be a boon and a blessing to our airmen who, with its aid, can find their targets whether they keep a normal course or not.

NATURE'S BOMBS

It is natural for us to suppose that all bombs are man-made; but there are others.

Nature anticipated human invention. Hers are called volcanic bombs, and woe betide anyone whom they hit. Under certain conditions lava issuing from a volcano is caught by successive explosions of steam into which water in the volcano has been converted. The force of the steam detaches bodies of the lava from the main flow and hurls it in masses into the air. The impelling force gives the lava a spinning motion, so that the bomb assumes a pear-like shape. The air cools the surface, which becomes a strong shell, within which there may remain lava pierced by many cells; between these and the outer covering true stone is often found.

Some of these bombs are quite small, but others are indeed formidable, as big as the body of a man, and, ejected with immense power and velocity, are capable of doing great damage.

TINY TOOLS

IN American aviation laboratories a microscopic study is made of rust and other particles that have a bad effect on aero-engines.

For this work minutely small tools are used, chisels, hammers, rakes, and saws which would be blown away by a light breeze. All the work with them is done under a microscope and they are never touched by hand, but are manipulated by tiny cranes, levers, and robot arms which are themselves hair-sized.

REAR LIGHTS FOR CYCLISTS

THE Bill making rear lights for cyclists compulsory has been passed by the House of Commons.

Supporting the Bill, Mr Noel-Baker said that since the beginning of the war 1700 cyclists had been killed on the roads at night. He revealed too that our roads have been as great a danger as the enemy's bombs. 58,000 people were killed by bombs up to the end of 1944 and 41,000 were killed on the roads in the same period. Serious road injuries were higher than serious bomb injuries, 81,000 people being injured by bombs and 117,000 on the roads.

Road dangers will probably increase after the war, and Mr Noel-Baker said the Government will introduce many more drastic measures to reduce the menace.

GLASGOW'S ZOO

THE first step in the construction of Glasgow's new Zoological Park was taken recently when university students blasted a hillside to provide dens for wild-cats and bears.

This zoo will be one of the largest in the world, and the animals will live under almost natural conditions. It will be made for the public with public money, and all profits will be used for the benefit of the zoo.

The Zoological Society of Glasgow states that £50,000 will be required for an expedition which is to go to Africa shortly in search of wild animals. But the society already has several animals lodged at Edinburgh Zoo, and has received promises of others from various sources.



Healthy Appetites at a Home For Servicemen's Children

March 10, 1945

The Children's



President Eduard Benes

More than six years ago, following the Munich Agreement of September 29, 1938, President Benes left Czechoslovakia; and since July 29, 1941, his Government in London has been officially recognised. Here Dr Benes is seen studying the map in his London home. See below

A PRESIDENT GOES HOME

AFTER more than six years of exile, President Benes of Czechoslovakia is going home.

Our Russian allies have liberated Czechoslovakia's eastern province of Ruthenia, which was given to Hungary in March, 1939, when Hitler overran the Republic and declared that Czechoslovakia had ceased to exist. Nearly half of Slovakia has also been freed by the Russians.

Dr Benes is first going to Moscow, where he will probably await the liberation of more of his native land. He believes that before long the rest of Slovakia and also Moravia will be freed. With the President will be his Prime Minister, Mr Sramek, his Foreign Minister, M. Jan Masaryk, and other Ministers; and while they are in Moscow there will be important talks with Marshal Stalin and M. Molotov. For in December, 1943, a 20-year treaty of friendship, mutual assistance, and post-war collaboration between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia was signed. A protocol to the Treaty made provision for a third party being allowed to join by mutual consent of the two signatories. This, doubtless, referred to Poland and it is likely that the question of Poland will be discussed.

Before leaving London Dr Benes broadcast a message to his people telling of his movements. He said:

"We shall place back in your hands our mandate which was assigned to us here abroad by the course of events and we will submit to you the results of our labour. It will be for you, our people, to decide what is to be done then, and Czechs and Slovaks will decide in common.

"As soon as I reach the territory of the Republic, the first government on our soil will be formed, including representatives of those who remained at home, and it will direct exclusively our conditions at home. With the formation of the new government at home the State Council in London will cease to function."

Dr Benes also spoke to the British people over the wireless, and expressed the gratitude of all Czechoslovaks who have found a home in Great Britain during the past terrible years. He spoke of the deep admiration for the magnificent British resistance to the German aggression, and said, "You fought for your own liberty, but at the same time you fought for the liberation of Europe. Your silent determination turned your island fortress into the springboard for the invasion of the occupied Continent."

The President concluded with these moving words:

"I am saying thank you and farewell while the war is still raging all round us. But I am leaving these unconquerable islands convinced that victory is absolutely certain and not far distant; and I am leaving you with gratitude in my heart. I am proud to have lived in Great Britain during her darkest and most glorious hour."

And Britain is proud to have given hospitality to President Benes and his Government and the many thousands of their countrymen who came here to join the forces of freedom.

God speed you, Mr President, in your task of building on the ruins of war a happy and prosperous new Republic of Czechoslovakia.

SHOES

THE strip of leather that lies between our feet and the hard road with its bits of glass and sharp stones is very much in our minds nowadays, and we recall the old Negro "spiritual" sung by the slaves: "I got shoes, you got shoes, all God's chillun got shoes. When I get to Heaven I'm gonna put on my shoes and walk all over God's Heaven..."

It may seem to us a strange idea of Heaven, until we remember that the poor slaves seldom possessed shoes and to their imagination part of the joy of Paradise would be to wear shoes like the white folks and walk long distances without the risk of getting a piece of glass or a thorn in the foot, or becoming footsore.

In tropical countries many of the natives go shoeless, unless they have to walk a long distance, when they are generally obliged to get hold of a pair of sandals or shoes somehow.

It was common in Britain years ago to see barefoot children whose parents could not afford shoes. We ourselves have learned to appreciate the value of footwear since the war brought a shortage of shoe leather for civilians. It is therefore good news for us that Mr J. H. Bott, President of the National Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Federation, has announced that from April 1 this year the standard of shoe leather for children's footwear is to be raised. We shall appreciate shoes that will last longer—especially as the war has taught us to treat our shoes with respect.

Your Snapshots in Colour

EVERY now and then we hear of the time coming when anyone will be able to take a snapshot in an ordinary camera, and to get a print on paper in the natural colours. We see beautiful films in colour in the picture theatres, and it must seem that if colour photographs can be thrown on the screen it should be equally possible to print colour photographs on paper. Yet in spite of all promises the colour print for Everyman has not materialised.

Fine pictures can be taken in natural colours on films, and if held up to the light and looked through, they are wonderfully faithful to life. Amateur cinematograph films can be taken and projected on to a screen in natural colours. Yet the coloured print for the snapshot album has seemed as far away as ever.

It is good, therefore, to know that this is not the case. The films, which can be taken in an ordinary camera and developed in natural colours, can now be printed on paper by at least two methods. But so important are they to the war effort that the entire output of the wonderful new paper has been taken up by the U.S. Government. The amateur will not be able to have his snapshots in colour until after the war. In one case the films will have to be sent to a central laboratory for the paper prints to be made, but in the other process an intelligent amateur will be able to make his own prints at home. The results are far ahead of anything that has ever been done before, and this seemingly impossible problem has really been solved.

The EDITOR'S TABLE

Like the Arabian Nights

THE recent visit of Mr Churchill and Mr Eden to King Ibn Saud, of Saudi Arabia, at Lake Karoum, about fifty miles from Cairo, suggests a scene from the Arabian Nights Entertainment.

Our two great statesmen were received with oriental pomp and magnificence. After luncheon, at which King Ibn Saud wore ceremonial robes of brick red and gold, there was an exchange of gifts, a custom practised on great occasions in such parts. Mr Churchill was presented with a jewelled dagger of chased gold and a set of ceremonial robes; Mr Eden received a sword. In return, King Ibn Saud was presented with bottles of the finest perfumes.

Mr Churchill's ceremonial robes doubtless include the appropriate Arabian headgear. His collection has certainly been enriched by his wartime travels.

A Spread-Over For New Factories

THE Distribution of Industry Bill to be submitted to Parliament is a measure of pure commonsense, for it aims at securing a proper distribution of industry over the country, so as to avoid unemployment in any particular part of it.

The Board of Trade will control this distribution of factories and other buildings. All proposals to erect new buildings of an industrial nature which exceed 3000 square feet in floor space must receive their approval.

Under this Bill, too, the Board of Trade will be able to acquire land in areas in need of industrial development.

Grants to industrial concerns in areas are provided for.

It is obvious that we must avoid the haphazard method of allowing factories to spring up in unsuitable places.

CARRY ON

Fairness and Courtesy

ONE of the lessons life has taught me, is that where there is known to be a common object, the pursuit of truth, there should also be a studious desire to interpret the adversary in the best sense his words will fairly bear; to avoid whatever widens the breach; and to make the most of whatever tends to narrow it. These I hold to be part of the laws of knightly courtesy.

W. E. Gladstone

LOOKING BACK

It is so small a thing
To have enjoyed the sun,
To have lived light in the spring,
To have loved, to have thought,
to have done;
To have advanced true friends, and
beat down baffling foes?

Matthew Arnold

WORLD'S WORK

THE World Trade Union Conference, already described in the C.N., have decided to create a new federation of the world's workers. Thus will be linked up in their common cause all who toil at their trades, whether in Cornwall or China.

Considerable unevenness exists as between nations in such matters as wages, standards of living, and the welfare of the workers. In the past this has brought many troubles, for goods produced by workers earning low wages can be sold cheaply and spoil the market for makers of similar goods whose workers are paid reasonable wages and given good conditions.

Journey's End—& /

WE have had it from the lips of Field-Marshal Montgomery himself that the war in Europe is now in its final stage. After the long uphill journey, it is heartening to realise that we are reaching the top of the hill and that one final spurt will bring us to our goal.

Yet the end will be only the beginning—of another, a different pilgrimage. When the "Cease fire" has sounded in Europe, new energies, imagina-

Under the Ed

A TOWN complains that it has too many flag days. Its enthusiasm is flagging.

IN the London hat world most designers are men. A topping job.

GERMANY is waiting for the main attack. But doesn't expect it to come from the sea.

A HAT should harmonise with the shape of the face. And make people look round.

PETER PU WANTS YOU KNOW



If you can't blue green

Sweet Return

WELCOME, pale primrose! starting up between
Dead matted leaves of ash and oak that strew
The every lawn, the wood, and spinney through,
Mid creeping moss and ivy's darker green;
How much thy presence beautifies the ground!
How sweet thy modest unaffected pride
Glow on the sunny bank and wood's warm side!

THE STRENGTH

WHILST every man fears his neighbour, and has no other defence than his own strength, he must live in that perpetual anxiety, which is equally contrary to that happiness, and that sedate temper of mind, which is required for the search of it. The first step towards the cure of this pestilent evil is for many to join in

ERS TO UNITE

This new federation, with headquarters in Paris, should be able to achieve great things for the world's benefit. There is no easy task, but with wise statesmanship, understanding, and good will, the difficulties as between nations can be overcome. This, indeed, was shown at the Conference.

Before it ended the Conference made a declaration on after-war reconstruction; and among the many matters dealt with, we are pleased to note, was the subject of the welfare of workers' children.

This is a decision of the utmost importance, for they will be the workers of the future.

New Pilgrimage

tion, and enterprise will be needed to build up a broken continent on peaceful foundations. It will be a task abundantly worth while.

And so, while the final stage has yet to be completed, and the war against Japan has yet to be won, let us all prepare our minds for an even greater enterprise, in which today's children, the men and women of tomorrow, will play an increasingly important part as time goes on.

itor's Table

AN American is trying to discover what to do with sharks. Keep out of their way.

FARMERS want a good balance sheet. Ordinary ones take coupons.

HITLER is planning a way out. Out of Germany?

THE Soviet Union grows cottons ready dyed. A new colour scheme.

TEACHERS who have graduated at universities are to get higher pay. They may use get it by degrees.

ing Spring

And where thy fairy flowers in groups are found

The schoolboy roams enchanted along

Plucking the fairest with a rude delight:

While the meek shepherd stops his simple song

To gaze a moment on the pleasing sight;

O'erjoyed to see the flowers that truly bring

The welcome news of sweet returning spring. John Clare

TH OF UNITY

one body, that every one may be protected by the united force of all; and the various talents that men possess may by good discipline be rendered useful to the whole: as the meanest piece of wood or stone, being placed by a wise architect, conduces to the beauty of the most glorious building.

Algernon Sidney

Footings the Bill

THE new Education Act, which is intended to put all education on a better basis, will cost money, and the local education authorities who will have to carry out the new plans have been wondering how the extra bills are to be met out of local rates. Happily, a solution has been found.

The Minister of Education has stated that the Exchequer grants to local authorities will be considerably increased to meet the new calls.

After all, education is national and not local in value, and its cost should be spread as evenly as possible over the country as a whole.

DAWN

A U-BOAT officer, rescued from the Atlantic after his submarine had been sunk by a Canadian corvette, was shown a copy of a New York newspaper. In it he read not only the Allied war reports but also the German and Japanese communiqués.

The captive officer was silent for a while, then, "That is liberty," he said.

For one Nazi the light had dawned.

Their Sole Concern

ALL Fools' Day this year is to be marked by at least one piece of practical wisdom. From April the First better leather is to be used for children's shoes, and the sole leather will be as good as that used for the footwear of the Forces.

Few problems have caused more heartburning than that of keeping children adequately shod during the last few years. Everyone realises, of course, that the Services have had to come first, but no Commando is heavier on his footwear than the average schoolboy; and all who have had to foot a heavy bill in a vain attempt to keep cagor young feet dry will welcome this decision.

Perfect Living

MORAL perfection consists in living each day as if it were our last, without anxiety, without cowardice, and without hypocrisy. Marcus Aurelius

NOONTIDE

THE shepherd boy lies on the hill

At noon with upward eye;
Deep on his gaze and deeper still
Ascends the clear blue sky.

You pass him by, and deem perchance

He lies but half awake,
And picture in what airy trance
His soul may sport or ache.

Full wakeful he, both eye and heart,

For he a cloud hath seen
Into that waste of air depart,
As bark in ocean green.

John Keble

Unmanly

ALL infliction of pain on weaker creatures is to be stigmatised as unmanly crime. John Ruskin

FAMILY GROUP

WAR is a great teacher of geography. The men engaged in the warfare learn as they fight; we at home are compelled to learn in order that, in spirit and sympathy, we may bear them company.

Until recently few of us, probably, had even heard of the Volcano Islands, of which Iwojima has now been the scene of terrific encounters between Americans and Japanese. Consulting a fairly modern work of reference we are informed that the islands, although annexed by Japan 54 years ago, are uninhabited; but since those words were written our enemy has made Iwojima a strongly-fortified place, with artillery and airfields that have been a thorn in the side of men flying Super-Fortresses to bomb Japan.

Iwojima is Japanese for Sulphur Island. The Volcano Islands, whose title declares their character, lie just south-west of the Bonin group, whose names, first bestowed by British and American settlers when they possessed the islands for a season, have given place to Japanese titles. These form perhaps the most strangely named group on the entire map of the world. Numbering about a score, and comprising some 28 square miles, they are viewed by the Japanese as a family, and so bear names which in English mean: Bridegroom Island, Go-between Island, Bride Island, Younger-brother Island, Elder-brother Island, Father Island, Mother Island, Elder-sister Island, Younger-sister Island, and Niece Island.

It is reasonable to anticipate a great amount of trouble in that island family.

The Wily Scots of Goch

THE Germans had prepared to hold on to the Siegfried Line town of Goch because of its great strategic importance as a meeting-place of eight main roads. The Nazis expected that the British would attack from the north because the south-west part of the town was covered by a wide anti-tank ditch and several belts of defences. So the German Commander posted his troops facing north and sent none to watch the south-west defences, thinking that if the British should choose to come in that way they would put down a barrage to flatten the barbed wire and other obstacles, and the noise of this would give him plenty of time to send troops in that direction.

He was so sure the British would not attempt to come that way that he set up his headquarters in the south-west of the town—and retired to bed.

But the British Commander had imagined what was in his adversary's mind and he sent Scottish troops to get through those defences in the south-west without an artillery barrage. Silently the Scots made their way through the barbed wire and over the obstacles, rushed into the Nazis' headquarters and awoke the German Commander, Colonel Matussek, and his staff. It was a very unpleasant surprise for the German, who, as a prisoner, ruefully explained how the Scots had outwitted him.

Europe's Tiny State

When Switzerland announced the other day that Nazi property would find no refuge within her borders, the little state of Liechtenstein was named as an associate of this decision. Here are a C N correspondent's pre-war memories of this pleasant land.

WEDGED between Austria and Switzerland, with its feet along the Rhine and its head high up in the Alps, is the tiny independent Principality of Liechtenstein, just sixty square miles and with a population of 10,000. Its Prince is Franz Joseph the Second, who has been reigning since 1938 and lives in the castle overlooking the tiny capital of Vaduz.

No Army

Before 1919 Austria supplied the currency and looked after the tiny state economically, but now Switzerland has Liechtenstein under her wing. There is, however, a fierce local patriotism which stands for "Liechtenstein for the Liechtensteins," and the colours are displayed in the streets of the capital and outside the tiny mountain inns. She has her own postage stamps, too, and one shop we noticed was doing a good trade in selling them to visitors. The government is carried on with the help of the Diet of fifteen members, which meets in the beautiful new Rathaus, or town hall, in Vaduz. There is no army, and the police number only 50.

The small hotel where we stayed had the wide passages of an old German house with large, shining chests on the landings, and a dining-room with a simple, scrubbed floor, opening on to a balcony, bright with geraniums, looking down the valley of the Rhine. In the morning sun the white and red castle stood out on its rocky peak dominating the capital.

The town has only one street stretching beneath the great rock for nearly two miles, and every few yards there is a fountain spouting the clear water of the hills. The capital is awake early in the morning, but by half-past nine, at night all is still.

The little country, besides the capital, has fifteen villages and ten parishes, and from the valley floor the mountains go sheer up to five and eight thousand feet, with some of the finest walks in the Alps. We

started on the long climb up to Succa early in the morning, with the mist hanging low down the mountainside. Every little bit of land seems to be parcelled out very carefully with pegs to mark each person's boundary. Peasants were standing on the most oblique slopes slowly moving the grass. Women were turning it where there were patches of sunlight and gathering it into heaps.

Through the steep pastures we came to the village of Triesenberg, with its church tower looking like a green mushroom. There the green alp spread out, and the gay, variegated houses made fresh pictures in the morning sun. And always the broad ribbon, the Rhine, flowed on, making the boundary between Liechtenstein and Switzerland. Above Triesenberg we took the steep road up which the post-bus goes perilously. Luggage, bread, groceries, and parcels, were crammed between the bonnet of the car and the front mudguard, and the postman clung to the footboard as the bus went up in front of us.

Three Frontiers

At five thousand feet a tunnel cuts off the last steep bit, and you come out into the glorious sunlight at Succa facing the long Samina valley and the peak of the Naafkopf, which marks the frontier of the three countries—Austria, Switzerland, and Liechtenstein. The low roar of the stream came up the mountainside, and the touch of snow on the peaks gave the right finish to the scene. A herd of cows wandered on the green alp in charge of a small herd boy, who raced about with bare feet.

Although Liechtenstein is mainly a country of peasants and small farmers, there are two or three cotton mills and a growing tourist industry. There are two banks in the capital with magnificent offices, at least so they looked from the outside. The tiny kingdom offers, too, another attraction for residents; its income tax is only one per cent per annum!



THIS ENGLAND

A charming timbered house at Welford-on-Avon, near Shakespeare's Stratford

CANDLELIGHT IN NORWAY

The CN has told already of the gallant young Norwegians who, making their way on skis, are harassing the German invaders. In the following dispatch from liberated Eastern Finnmark, Jørgen Juve describes for us the scene at a recruiting depot to which young Norwegians come from near and far to join the forces of freedom.

THERE is flickering candlelight everywhere in the large schoolbuilding which the Germans failed to burn down when they retreated from Arctic North Norway. But the only person working there who is allowed to have more than one candle is the doctor.

He needs plenty of light to examine the local male population who are coming in to join the Norwegian Army. These are men who are comparatively short in stature, and their figures are not always erect. But their shoulders are broad. Their figures have been shaped this way by a life of toil in the open air, and they are probably most at home in a boat.

The volunteers are passed Fit A1. Then they get rid of the old clothes they have worn for so long and which are like rags. These are thrown into a heap on the snow. The men themselves file into a hut which has been converted into a bath-room, and there, after cleaning up, they are issued with underclothes and battledress. They spend some time contemplating the sight of new clothes—clothes the like of which they have not seen for years.

Among the volunteers I saw were nine who had just arrived after a three-week journey over 250 miles of Arctic snow on skis. This is a terrific feat—and by boys who have been hungry for months, who have been sleeping in the open-air night after night, and who were under the German yoke for years.

The Germans had burned

down their homes, and the people had sought refuge in the mountains. These men, in their threadbare suits, had set out for the far North where the Norwegian Army was. They were helped on their way by reindeer shepherds far in the interior where there are no roads or paths, and, therefore, no Germans. The people in the turf huts in the mountains were hospitable, and on some nights they were given accommodation indoors.

Now the men have new kit; now they are soldiers. They have quickly learned to handle the Russian weapons they have received, and their figures seem straightened by the tight-fitting British battledress tunics. Most of them had formed the crews of fishing boats—fishing boats in which for nearly five years they had been forced to work for the Germans. If any of them refused, the Germans waited. They knew that the day would come when these Norwegians would do anything to get bread, not to mention tobacco.

It was impossible to organise themselves into groups of opposition to the enemy. They were so few, and the Germans were so many—and they had no arms.

But all that is a nightmare of yesterday now. Today they are soldiers, equipped and armed. At this moment they are out on ski patrol, pushing scores of miles across Arctic terrain, ready now to hit back at the enemy who murdered their people and fired their homes.

A Clarion Call to Industry

"AN ever watchful eye must be kept on the people who believe that there can be a curse in plenty," declared Mr Brendan Bracken, Minister of Information, addressing the Royal Empire Society recently.

Mr Bracken had a sharp word for the dismal Jimmies who are fearful of Britain's economic and financial future. A lot of energy is wasted, he said, in groaning about the state of our basic industries. But, said Mr Bracken, history showed that our basic industries often shifted. At one time wool was our chief commodity. When that had seen its heyday, other basic industries loomed up in importance. Some of the great basic industries of the future might, he suggested, be starting in the laboratories today.

Mr Bracken mentioned rayon, staple fibre, wireless sets, dye-stuffs, plastics, by-products from coal and gas, and food processing as industries which might well secure high places in the British industrial world after the war.

Research, risk-taking, and enterprise must be encouraged, said the Minister of Information. Industrial designers must have full rein, plant and equipment must be scrapped if better machines and tools are devised, salesmanship must be improved and prices must be pulled down to encourage popular spending. Low prices, Mr Bracken added, are the encourager, not the enemy of full and well-paid employment.

The Victory Harvest

THE Ministry of Agriculture are launching an appeal for a million volunteers to assist with this year's harvest. It will be a case of all hands on deck, for, with a still greater shortage of manpower, and the needs of Europe as well as our own country being so pressing, every bit of food grown in our islands must be gathered and garnered.

The frosts and snow of winter have done much to clean and feed the land, and, given a good spring with plenty of showers, and a warm summer, crops should be fine.

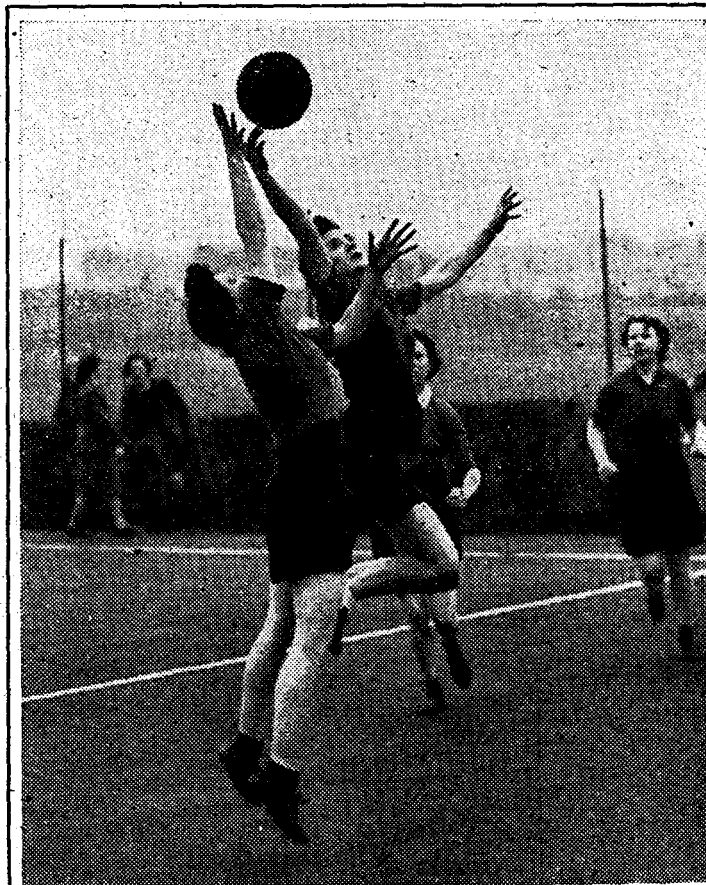
Most people with any spare time at all can help in this campaign. Young people, especially boys and girls of fourteen and over, will be expected to play their part. We are sure that they will rally to this call.

A WEEK TO REMEMBER

A NEW record for speedy promotion has been set up by Pilot-Officer Walker of Toronto, who has been serving with a Canadian Halifax bomber group in Britain.

In one week he received three promotions and two decorations. On Monday he was a sergeant, Tuesday a flight sergeant, Wednesday a warrant officer, and on Thursday morning a pilot officer. On Thursday night he was told by his commanding officer that he had won the Air Force Medal, and on Friday he got the 1939-43 Star.

His quick rise was due to a delay in transit of his documents from the Bahamas, where he had served in Liberators. As a result his promotions all arrived at the same time.



Girl Gunners at Play

These vigorous young women of the ATS are playing in the finals of the AA Command netball championship at Hendon.

ALICE IN WINDOWLAND

NEWSPAPER correspondence has brought out the fact that Alice in Wonderland appears more than once in stained glass windows. The original Alice, who died at Westerham, Kent, aged 82, nearly ten years ago, served as model for glass, designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones and executed by William Morris, for various windows in the chapel of Whitelands College, which was removed in 1931 from Chelsea to Putney. Rugby School chapel also has memorials of the immortal book, with representations of various characters from its story; while Llandudno, where the real Alice used to ramble during girlhood, has a memorial in which the White Rabbit anxiously consults his watch.

But the best Alice window is, fittingly, in the Cheshire village of Daresbury, the village of which Lewis Carroll wrote:

An island farm, mid seas of corn
Swayed by the wandering breath
of morn

[born
The happy spot where I was
In a charming window in the village church Lewis Carroll, or Charles Dodgson, to give him his real name, appears with Alice.

A child is the central figure—the Holy Child in the cradle, with Mary and Joseph and the adoring shepherds. On one side is St Francis; and on the other kneels Lewis Carroll in his academic robes, with Alice, the immortal child of his fancy, standing beside him. At the foot of the window are old friends from Wonderland and Looking-Glass Land, as pictured by Sir John Tenniel: the White Rabbit, Bill the Lizard, the Dodo, the Caterpillar, the Mad Hatter, the Dormouse sitting in the teapot, and the Cheshire Cat, quite at home, of course, in this old Cheshire church.

Millions of Medallists

THE news that over three million people in Russia have received decorations during the war may set some of us thinking of Germany's innumerable Iron Crosses. But it is a much more serious mark of solid achievement than we realise.

Firstly, there are nearly 200 million people in the Soviet Union, and they have done wonders on the battlefield, in the factory, in the forests and the mines, against terrific odds. And then again, Russia has been, for many years now, fighting not only Nazis, but the forces of Nature and the aftermath of revolution and past neglect of her resources.

Russians have always liked the reward of a ribbon or a medal, or

both. When the champion-worker Stakhanov, some years before this war, set a new standard for industrial output, his disciples looked for decorations if they proved themselves worthy, and they received them. The war made "Stakhanovites" of countless men, women, and children of many races within the Union.

Culturally also, in the fields of literature, art, science, and social effort, the utmost encouragement has been given to all Soviet citizens since the war began, for Stalin recognised that the arts must not be neglected even under fire; and we may be sure that Soviet artists, writers, and scientists figure largely in this distinguished three million.

BEDTIME CORNER

BUSYBODIES

BUSY little busybodies

Flitting here and there,
Toiling, striving, struggling,
Dashing everywhere.

Always in a hurry,
Never time to stay,
Must be doing something
While it's called Today.

Burning up your energy,
Never time to rest;
Think you, busy busybodies,
You're giving God your best?

Mercury and the Statue-Seller

MERCURY was once anxious to learn exactly what value men put upon him, and so, disguised as a traveller, he called at the shop of a statue-seller.

Seeing a statue of Jupiter, he asked the price.

Then he inquired the cost of a statue of Juno, and heard that it was rather higher than that of Jupiter.

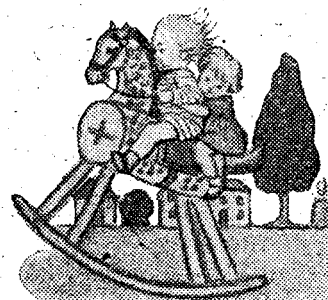
At last he saw an image of himself, and asked the shopkeeper for what sum he would sell it, thinking that it would be worth far more than the others.

"Well," said the man, "you seem to be a good fellow. I'll

tell you what I will do. If you buy the other two statues I will throw this one in for nothing."

Most people value themselves too highly.

A Thrilling Ride



A MORNING PRAYER

DEAR LORD, at this the beginning of the day I put my trust in Thee. Let me not give way to anger or selfishness and give me strength to meet each new task with hope and cheerfulness.

Keep me safe within Thy Love all my days on earth that I may come at last to inherit Thy Kingdom of Heaven. Amen.

Youth Clubs of the Future

WE welcome the report of the Committee on Post-War Youth Service in Wales which has just been published by the Ministry of Education. It contains many valuable suggestions for co-ordinating Youth activities in peacetime.

Britain has, perhaps, more Youth organisations than any country in the world except the U.S.A. They range from great national organisations such as the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides to associations and clubs linked with the different churches and political parties.

Although our numerous Youth organisations have many different objects, they have all the same ideal: this is to provide in the words of the committee's report, "Opportunities and guidance to enable young people to acquire a personal philosophy of life, in the hope that they will come to accept the Christian qualities as basic principles in deed and thought," for, as the committee point out, "Our democratic community accepts the ideals of Christian civilisation."

Another common object of all our Youth associations is to provide healthy and interesting occupations for leisure time; indeed, Leisure Service might be a more apt term than Youth Service says the report, and it is with this aspect of the question that the committee chiefly dealt.

They want the post-war Youth Service of Wales to be an integral part of the National Education system. They recommend that the Ministry of Education, the Local Authorities, and the voluntary Youth Associations should work in partnership. But they want the Ministry of Education authorities to provide for all Youth Organisations such facilities as camps, swimming baths,

playing fields, training courses, libraries, and the services of paid instructors.

While the Ministry of Education is building up these facilities the committee suggest that the present arrangements whereby various Youth associations receive grants of money to help them should be continued; though these grants could be reduced as the facilities such as camps, playing fields, and so on were provided by the authorities.

The committee have sound ideas of what a modern Youth centre or club should be. They say it should include in its activities not only recreations of all sorts, but also residential colleges and training camps where members could stay for short periods, while there should be opportunities for rich and varied holiday experience, foreign travel, expeditions, mountain climbing, and so on. But they rightly emphasise that in all these leisure activities there must be no compulsion.

We agree with these imaginative proposals and think they might well be adopted in the rest of the country beyond the borders of Wales.

JUST A MINUTE

When a R.A.F. Lancaster was set on fire by a German night fighter not long ago the crew were ordered to bale out. Flight-Sergeant McNamara, a Canadian, asked if he could stay another minute. He then shot down the enemy fighter, although two of his guns were jammed, before jumping out.

SCARS OF WAR

THE tale of the City of London under bombardment from the air has been told at last.

This little area of a mere 460 acres (the actual built-up area) is the pulse of the universe, the business headquarters of world trade and commerce. Though it suffered terribly, it is alive and active still. Nothing can, or ever will, defeat it.

The story of events between 1940 and February, 1944, is a grim one. No less than one-third of the City's buildings were destroyed. The sirens sounded 715 times and the alerts, measured in time, amounted to nine weeks. A total of 417 high explosive bombs, 13 parachute mines, 2498 oil bombs, and many thousands of incendiary bombs were dropped on the City area. Forty churches and twenty Livery Companies' halls were destroyed or damaged. Other buildings affected were the Tower of London, the 15th-century Guildhall, the Bank of England, the General Post Office, two railway bridges, and three railway termini. Oddly enough, St Paul's Cathedral was only slightly damaged. The casualties, happily, were not heavy.

All who love their England are proud of their capital City. When its scars have healed and new buildings arise, it will be a strange mixture of the old and the new. But the grand old traditions will live on, and the City of London will maintain its proud position as a world-centre of progress and civilisation.

Supreme Sacrifice

FLIGHT-SERGEANT GEORGE THOMPSON, R.A.F., who has been awarded the V.C., laid down his life for his friends.

His bomber was hit over Germany. The middle and rear gun turrets were on fire and the flight-sergeant knew the gunners in them were helpless. He crept down the inside of the fuselage through flames and exploding cartridges, got out the first gunner and beat out his burning clothes with his bare hands. Next, although badly burned himself, he went on to the rear turret and with his seared hands beat out the second gunner's flaming clothing.

Almost exhausted, he staggered back through the fire to report what had happened, and was by now so badly burned that his captain did not recognise him. His heroism saved the life of one of the gunners, but gallant Flight-Sergeant Thompson himself died of his injuries three weeks later.

CAT-AND-MOUSE STORY

IN a West of Scotland war factory recently production was beginning to fall for a very peculiar reason.

The factory cat had adopted a mouse and was caring for it with her kittens, and the workers were flocking to see the strange family, a small charge being made for the Red Cross.

Apparently the cat had killed the mother mouse and then adopted the orphan. Men at the factory had placed a little box in a corner of the machine shop where the cat and its mixed family lay completely uninterested in the people who came to see them. But work was more important, and Puss and family had to be removed!

A New Day Dawns For the Arabs

IT was a proud day for the Arab peoples and for their near neighbours in Ethiopia when President Roosevelt and Mr Churchill visited Egypt recently. It was a form of recognition which will give encouragement to all that is best in the aspirations of these ancient but still virile peoples.

Both the Prime Minister and the President had long talks with King Farouk of Egypt, the Emperor Haile Selassie, and King Ibn Saud of Arabia, while the Syrian President also called on Mr Churchill.

Set free from Turkey mainly by British forces during the last war the Arab peoples of the Middle East have steadily regained self-confidence. Except Egypt, where Turkish suzerainty was but a name and British help had already restored that ancient country to self-dignity, the Arab States were economically and politically weak in 1919, so the League placed Iraq, Palestine, and Transjordan under a British, and Syria and Lebanon under a French, mandate. The million-square-mile territory of Arabia was left under its native rulers.

The most virile of these was Ibn Saud, sultan of the Nejd, who withstood the Turks and has since by a rigorous and far-sighted policy established a Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which has its Ministry in London, while a British Legation has been set up at Jeddah on the Red Sea.

Iraq was freed from mandatory control in 1932, the British having helped that country to become a Constitutional monarchy. In Transjordan Great Britain has by a Treaty recognised the Amir Abdullah as head of an independent government, but the political status of the Arabs in Palestine is not so satisfactory to them.

The complete independence of the Syrian and Lebanese Republics has been recognised by the British, Russians, and Americans, but these Arab States are not satisfied with the attitude of the French.

When the Hitler War broke out Nazi intrigues were a real menace to peace in all these Arab States. Their newly-achieved prosperity was jeopardised.

CRICKETER AND MISSIONARY

THE last of three famous brothers has passed on at the age of 85. He was Mr G. B. Studd.

The brothers, J. E. K., C. T., and G. B., were all first-class cricketers in an age which has long since gone by. They played for Eton and Cambridge University and afterwards they were all members of a representative England team against Australia.

dised, especially when Italy, master of Ethiopia, joined the Nazis.

Egypt and the other Arab States had to be safeguarded and their people's livelihood maintained. So in April, 1941, the British set up in Cairo the Middle East Supply Centre to foster mutual economic aid for the Arab countries. America joined this organisation in 1942, sending supplies under Lend-Lease. By pooling arrangements, by helping the various States to grow more foodstuffs, by fighting such pests as locusts, and so on, this organisation has met the enormous strain the war has imposed on the Middle East.

The Middle East Supply Centre has of course brought together representatives of all the Arab States, which thus have come to realise that they have a need for unity even beyond that of their common language, culture, and religion. The old feuds and political rivalries are becoming of less moment, and an Arab League seems to be emerging.

This Pan-Arab movement was much encouraged by a statement in Parliament by Mr Eden on February 24, 1943, that the British Government "would view with sympathy any move among the Arabs to promote their economic, cultural, and political unity; but clearly the initiative would have to come from the Arabs themselves, and so far as I am aware no such scheme, which would command general approval, has yet been worked out."

Arab leaders have since been active in evolving a scheme for a Federation of their peoples, who number some 30,000,000, and they have agreed to ban war between members of the proposed Arab League.

Acting as a group the Arab States should prove more helpful than as individual units in the solution of post-war problems.

ROUND THE WORLD WITH BSA

No. 8

GOLD COAST

A town with a sinister reputation is Itu, not far from Calabar. Here on the beach, a market



was held which supplied the New World with slaves. Even in the early years of this century human sacrifice and cannibalism were practised. For instance, just before Mary Slessor, the famous Missionary, arrived there in 1902, a chief had died; sixty of his slaves had been killed and eaten! When it was possible, Mary Slessor used to ride into the wilds of Africa—all alone—on a bicycle, to the great astonishment of the natives! To-day, of course, they know all about bicycles, and are as anxious as you are to get a B.S.A. Unfortunately these famous machines are still scarce everywhere—but here is a tip for you. Ask your parents to have a word with your local dealer. If you are patient—your turn will come.

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BICYCLE YOU CAN'T BEAT!

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Bermaline

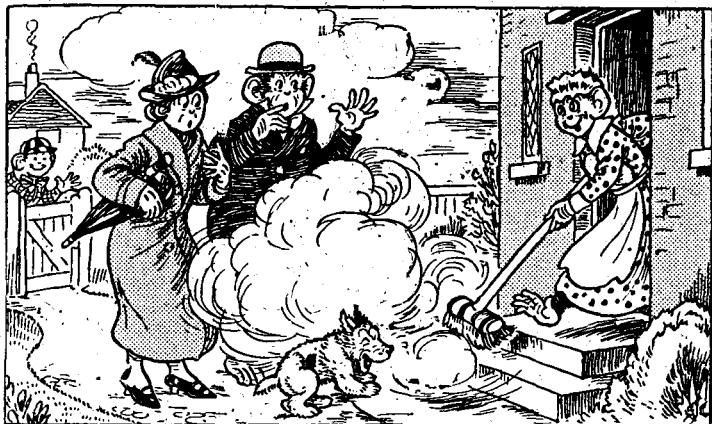
BREAD

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Jacko Raises a Dust



JACKO decided he would like to help with the spring-cleaning, and so one morning, much disguised in the maidservant's clothes, he set to work with a will—perhaps a little more than was really necessary. Soon he had collected a large pile of dust in the hall, and, opening the front door, he swept it out with a great flourish, much to the annoyance of two visitors who had just arrived. Chimp, however, thoroughly enjoyed the sight.

SUCH A RELIEF

"MRS MOPP, that jug you've broken belonged to my great-great-grandmother." "Oh, I am glad, ma'am," replied the daily help, "I thought it was a new one you had just bought!"

Backwards and Forwards

HERE are some palindromes—sentences reading both ways the same.
Madam, I'm Adam
Red root put up to order
Draw pupil's lip upbird
Snug & raw was I ere I saw war & guns
Able was I ere I saw Elba
Try some more yourself.

Grammar-Book Romance

LITTLE Miss Noun
Through Grammar-Book Town
Took a walk on a sunshiny day,
When along came a Verb
Looking simply superb,
So they went and got wed straight away!

THE RIGHT WAY

NEXT time you use a saw do not hold it with all four fingers through the handle.
You will find it much easier to keep the tool steady if you use the correct carpenter's grip with the first finger out straight and pressed against the side of the handle.

The BRAN TUB

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

The Mole as Weather Prophet. The dazzling whiteness of the snow was broken by a small heap of freshly-worked soil.

"Look, a molehill in the snow!" remarked Don to Farmer Gray.

"Yes," answered the farmer, "that probably means a thaw during the next twenty-four hours. Throughout the cold weather the Mole burrows deeper and deeper, but he appears to know several hours before the thaw sets in, and comes to the surface accordingly. Moles are tremendous eaters, consuming several times their own weight in food per day!"

Although their many tunnels and moleheaps are a nuisance, they are useful animals, ridding the soil of many pests.

A Tricky Sentence

GLADLY the grey goose gobbled the glossy golden grain the gleaners gaily garnered in Greta's granny's granary.

Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC programmes for Wednesday, March 7, to Tuesday, March 13.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 Country Magazine. Children's Edition—Young Farmers of the North.

THURSDAY, 5.20 Children's Concert by the BBC Northern Orchestra. 5.50 American Talk by Alan Williams.

FRIDAY, 5.20 Matilda Mouse meets Tammy Troot. 5.30 Regional Round—another general knowledge competition.

SATURDAY, 5.20 The Toymaker's Daughter—a dialogue story by Valerie Larr, played by the West-Country Children's Theatre Company. 5.45 F. N. S. Creek, the Sports Coach, will discuss Netball with Alison Cridland.

SUNDAY, 5.20 The Cat Who Went to War—a story for younger listeners, by Isabel McGill, read by Moultrie R. Kelsall, followed by Pupils of Ayr Academy in a programme of Scottish songs.

MONDAY, 5.20 Mary Plain's Big Adventure (Part 2), by Gwynedd Rae, told by Mac; followed by Ronald Gourlay at the piano; and Tara London—another story of Charley Brown and his mates, by Bernard Wetherall.

TUESDAY, 5.30 Sandy Macpherson at the organ; followed by All You've Ever Wanted—a story by Joan Aiken.

THE BETTER HALVES

"MARY, which would you rather have—a whole apple or two halves?" said the arithmetic mistress.

Mary promptly replied that she would prefer the two halves.

"But why?" asked the teacher. "So that I could see if it were good inside."

A SLEEPLESS NIGHT

AN eccentric old man of Leghorn could not get to sleep on his lawn.

To a worm he cried out: "Stop wriggling, you lout, You've kept me awake now till dawn."

Other Worlds

IN the morning Jupiter is in the south-west. In the evening Venus is in the south-west.

Uranus and Saturn are in the south, and Jupiter is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 7 a.m. on Thursday, March 8.

An Expert Carver

"ARE you sure you can cut up your own meat?" asked Auntie.

"Yes, thank you," replied little Bobby politely, "I've cut up a good deal tougher meat at home."

The Children's Newspaper, March 10, 1945

What the Trees Give Us

THE Poplar is used for packing cases and linings for carts and wagons.

The soft, even grain of the wood of the white poplar is especially suitable for toys, while the grey poplar, having a harder wood, makes good flooring, and, not being so liable to warp, is used in carving. The bark of the black poplar is used for tanning.

UNMANNERLY

"CHEERIO, comrade! Are you well?" The lively Eggspoon said. "Your greeting, sir," complained the Egg. "Appears to me ill bred. Friends shake one's hand, but you prefer To hit one on the head!"

Naming Nations

THE name of Persia was changed to Iran in 1935, and then changed back to Persia seven years later. The inhabitants always call themselves Iranians, but we call the country Persia because of a wild people called Parsees who lived there. Their name meant literally the tigers.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

What Am I?
Pity

The Secret Code
Satchel, ink

C	O	A	L	N	U	T	S
O	N	O	D	I	N	O	
L	E	Y	E	B	A	L	L
D	I	V	A	N	W	O	E
S	O	L	R	A	F		
A	L	L	A	O	R	T	A
R	E	V	O	L	V	E	B
T	E	R	I	E	N	T	E
S	I	D	E	R	I	F	T



TWICE on Sundays?

Bobby smartens himself up and tries to make up for week-day failings by giving his teeth a "double clean" on Sunday. But the practice is most unsound because teeth care must be regular. In the rush of our busy work-a-day week, we must avoid Bobby's error. To keep acid at bay you need to clean your teeth thoroughly, morning and night, with Phillips' Dental Magnesia. This toothpaste contains *Milk of Magnesia,* recommended by dentists to combat acid in the mouth.

1/1 and 1/10½



*Milk of Magnesia is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.



Made by The Shredded Wheat Co. Ltd., WELWYN GARDEN CITY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

Joan is so full of fun

Always getting up to something. So high spirited too. Taxes all your energy to keep pace with her. But in your heart you know her health is all that matters. Like all wise mothers you agree that when needed, a dose of 'California Syrup of Figs' will soon correct stomach upsets and regulate the system. It is the natural treatment for children—the laxative they like. 'California Syrup of Figs' keeps them well and happy.



"California Syrup of Figs"



SHARP'S THE WORD FOR TOFFEE